

**INTERNATIONAL SECURITY / MIDDLE EAST UPDATE**  
**July 6 - July 13, 2012**

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**1. Envoy Rice: There Must Be Costs to Syrian Noncompliance (07-12-2012)**

The U.S. delegation to the United Nations is working with the United Kingdom and other countries in the Security Council to advance a draft resolution on the mandate for the U.N. observer mission in Syria that endorses U.N. Special Envoy Kofi Annan's peace plan, as well as his call that there need to be "consequences for noncompliance."

Speaking in New York July 11, U.S. Permanent Representative to the U.N. Susan Rice said the 16-month violent crackdown by Syrian leader Bashar al-Assad's regime "must stop and the process of transition to a post-Assad Syria must finally begin."

On June 30, the five permanent members of the Security Council agreed to support Annan's plan that would end the violence. The plan calls for the creation of a transitional governing body ahead of constitutional reform and free elections that could include members of the Syrian government and opposition groups and would be formed by mutual consent.

"We must now ensure the conditions are present for the plan to finally be implemented," Rice said, amid continued violence in the country and the approaching end of the 90-day mandate for the United Nations Supervision Mission in Syria (UNSMIS) on July 20. The 300-person team was forced to suspend its monitoring activities in mid-June because of escalating violence.

Reporting to the Security Council from Geneva on July 10, Annan urged the body to "send a message to all that there will be consequences for noncompliance" with his peace efforts. Rice said council members need to ensure that will indeed be the case as they debate the renewal of UNSMIS.

Rice said the United States had originally expressed skepticism over the ability of UNSMIS to successfully monitor U.N. peace efforts in Syria due to the Assad regime's "brutality and its record of broken promises." The regime's "persistent refusal to take the basic steps to halt the violence" prevents the monitoring mission from fulfilling its mission, Rice said.

"Without this council taking concrete measures to increase the pressure for the Annan and Geneva plans to be implemented by the government, it's not plausible to assume that UNSMIS will be any more able to fulfill its mandate in the future than it is now," Rice said.

As the Security Council considers renewing UNSMIS, it needs to tie it and Annan's peace efforts to binding Chapter 7 enforcement mechanisms — "specifically, sanctions," Rice said.

"We think that a simple rollover of UNSMIS without the council being clear that it is prepared to put the full political weight that we have behind these observers on the ground and behind implementation of the Annan plan is insufficient. It will not accomplish the goals that we all seek," she said.

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## **2. Announcement of Increased Sanctions Against Government of Iran (07-12-2012)**

U.S. Department of State, Office of the Spokesperson  
U.S. Department of the Treasury, Press Center  
Washington, D.C.

### ***United States Increases Sanctions Against the Government of Iran and its Proliferation Networks***

Treasury and State Department Actions Target More Than 50 Entities Tied to Iran's Procurement, Petroleum, and Shipping Networks

Today, the United States is imposing additional sanctions on Iran's nuclear and ballistic missile proliferation networks, and is also taking additional steps to prevent the evasion of sanctions by publicly identifying a group of Iranian front companies and banks. These actions are part of the United States government's dual-track approach of increasing pressure to convince Iran to engage seriously and address the international community's concerns about its nuclear program.

"Iran today is under intense, multilateral sanctions pressure, and we will continue to ratchet up the pressure so long as Iran refuses to address the international community's well-founded concerns about its nuclear program," said Under Secretary for Terrorism and Financial Intelligence David S. Cohen. "Today's actions are our next step on that path, taking direct aim at disrupting Iran's nuclear and ballistic missile programs as well as its deceptive efforts to use front companies to sell and move its oil."

#### **Targeting Iran's Nuclear and Missile Proliferation Activities**

Since 2005, the United States has imposed a series of targeted, conduct-based sanctions under E.O. 13382, "Blocking Property of Weapons of Mass Destruction Proliferators and Their Supporters," on persons, firms, and financial institutions involved in Iran's nuclear and ballistic missile programs. This sustained sanctions effort has both disrupted the progress of Iran's nuclear and ballistic missile program and imposed significant pressure on the Iranian government.

Continuing the effort to target Iran's nuclear and missile proliferation activities, the U.S. Departments of the Treasury and State are today designating 11 entities and four individuals under E.O. 13382. As described in more detail in the accompanying Fact Sheet, many of the individuals and entities designated today are part of a network of proliferators headed by Iran's Ministry of Defense for Armed Forces Logistics (MODAFL) and its subsidiary, Aerospace Industries Organization (AIO). A number of additional designations are related to Iran's national maritime carrier, Islamic Republic of Iran Shipping Lines (IRISL), and Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC), both of which have been the target of a numerous sanctions actions by the United States and our partners around the world.

#### **Preventing the Circumvention of International Sanctions on Iran**

The Treasury Department is also acting today to prevent the circumvention of international sanctions on Iran – including sanctions on oil trade with Iran – by publicly exposing numerous Iranian front companies, ships and banks and that are part of the Government of Iran. The specific entities identified in today's action are described in the accompanying Fact Sheet.

Treasury is identifying these Government of Iran entities pursuant to E.O. 13599, which blocks all property and interests in property within U.S. jurisdiction of the Government of Iran and of all Iranian financial institutions, and prohibits U.S. persons or those within U.S. jurisdiction from having dealings with them. To assist U.S. persons in complying with their obligation to freeze the assets of, and not to deal with, any such entities, the Treasury Department from time to time identifies entities that are owned or controlled by, or acting for or on behalf of, the Government of Iran.

Today's identifications include four front companies for the Naftiran Intertrade Company (NICO) or the National Iranian Oil Company (NIOC) -- Petro Suisse Intertrade Company SA; Hong Kong Intertrade Company; Noor Energy (Malaysia) Ltd.; and Petro Energy Intertrade Company. NICO intended to use Petro Energy Intertrade to evade western sanctions. The Treasury Department identified in NICO and NIOC, both of which are centrally involved in the sale of Iranian oil, in 2008 as entities that are owned or controlled by the Government of Iran.

The Treasury Department is also identifying today the National Iranian Tanker Company (NITC) as a Government of Iran entity and, for the first time, the NITC fleet and various front companies belonging to NITC. In addition, the Treasury Department is also identifying 20 Iranian financial institutions for inclusion on its List of Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons (SDN List).

These identifications highlight Iran's attempts to evade sanctions through the use of front companies, as well as its attempts to conceal its tanker fleet by repainting, reflagging, or disabling GPS devices. They will assist U.S. persons in complying with E.O. 13599, and will also assist persons and entities around the world in complying U.S. and international sanctions, including the EU's prohibition on the import of Iranian oil that went into effect on July 1.

U.S. persons are generally prohibited from engaging in any transactions with individuals or entities blocked pursuant to E.O. 13382 or E.O. 13599, and any assets such persons may have under U.S. jurisdiction are blocked. Entry into the United States of aliens designated pursuant to E.O. 13382 is suspended under Presidential Proclamation 8693, Suspension of Entry of Aliens Subject to U.S. Security Council Travel Ban and International Emergency Economic Powers Act Sanctions.

See also: [State Dept. Fact Sheet on Increasing Sanctions on Iran](#)

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### 3. U.N. Ambassador Rice on Situation in Syria (07-12-2012)

Remarks by Ambassador Susan E. Rice, U.S. Permanent Representative to the United Nations, at the Security Council Stakeout, July 11, 2011

Good afternoon everyone.

We have heard once again about the vastly deteriorating situation in Syria resulting from the Assad regime's intensification of the violence against its own people. The violence must stop and the process of transition to a post-Assad Syria must finally begin.

Key elements of a political transition plan were identified in Geneva on June 30th. We must now ensure the conditions are present for the plan to finally be implemented. In our view, it is therefore imperative that the members of this Council heed the recommendations that we've heard from the Secretary General and again today from the Joint Special Envoy that we insist on full and immediate implementation of this Council's prior resolutions 2042 and 2043 and the Annan plan itself—the Six Point Plan—and the Geneva plan and ensure, as the Joint Special Envoy said today, that there are in fact consequences for non-compliance.

When the United States voted to authorize this mission, as you'll recall, we expressed skepticism about the prospects for its success given the Syrian regime's brutality and its record of broken promises. The fact is that UNSMIS, regrettably, is not at present able to do the job that this Council mandated it to do because of the regime's persistent refusal to take the basic steps to halt the violence. Without this Council taking concrete measures to increase the pressure for the Annan and Geneva plans to be implemented by the government, it's not plausible to assume that UNSMIS will be any more able to fulfill its mandate in the future than it is now. And so we are reviewing the recommendations of the Secretary General and the Joint Special Envoy. We are consulting closely with our partners in the Council on next steps. And we are working with the British and other colleagues on a draft resolution along the lines that Ambassador Lyall Grant articulated.

I'm happy to take a couple questions.

*Reporter:* Ambassador, Kofi Annan said Iran must be part of the solution, which seems to flip precisely what you had said that Iran is part of the problem. Do you think anything has changed in terms of—or what has he succeeded in doing by meeting in Iran—in Tehran?

*Ambassador Rice:* Well, I can't characterize what Kofi Annan may believe he achieved in Iran. The U.S. view has been very consistent and clear. Iran is definitely part of the problem in Syria. It is supporting, aiding, and abetting the Assad regime materially and in many other ways, and it has shown no readiness to contribute constructively. And so we have taken the view that because it has contributed on the negative side of the ledger so profoundly and shown no readiness to employ whatever influence it has to persuade the Syrian regime to stop the violence, that it is not at this point prepared to play a constructive role.

*Reporter:* Kofi Annan described Mrs. Clinton's talks to Assad as very dangerous, that she uses—she used very dangerous words, according to some leaks, that's what she said—

*Ambassador Rice:* You're quoting leaks as the basis to your question?

*Reporter:* How do you view Kofi Annan's approach now—the rapprochement regarding Syria and Iran and Iraq at the same time and at the same time criticizing the United States?

*Ambassador Rice:* Well, I have not heard Joint Special Envoy Annan criticize the United States. We work very closely and constructively in support of Joint Special Envoy Annan and his plan, and we are now continuing to work in the Security Council to put the weight of this Council behind his plan. Our view is simply that UNSMIS is a tool to implement the Annan plan. Its ability to do so has been thwarted by the actions of the Assad regime. As we look at the question of renewal and we look at the challenge of how we put the full weight of this Council behind the Six-Point Plan and behind what was agreed in Geneva, our view is that this Council needs to put that kind of plan under Chapter VII, make it clear that it is binding on the parties, and we ought to make very clear, as Joint Special Envoy Annan said today again in the Council, that there ought to be clear-cut consequences for non-compliance.

*Reporter:* [inaudible] you said you could not guarantee that it would be renewed. Is that still the case or does the United States now support the renewal of the mission? And what kind of consequences? Are these economic sanctions?

*Ambassador Rice:* We mean consequences under Chapter VII, including sanctions—I mean, specifically sanctions. I don't mean to allude to other consequences under Chapter VII. Our view is that the resolution and the question of the

renewal of UNSMIS is one that the Council will have to try to come to agreement on. We think that a simple rollover of UNSMIS without the Council being clear that it is prepared to put the full political weight that we have behind these observers on the ground and behind implementation of the Annan plan, is insufficient. It will not accomplish the goals that we all seek. So, in the course of our discussions inside the Council, we'll see whether it is possible to do so. Thank you.

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#### **4. U.S. Envoy at Opening of U.N. Conference on Arms Trade Treaty** (07-11-2012)

U.S. Mission to the United Nations  
Thomas Countryman, Assistant Secretary  
Bureau of International Security and Nonproliferation  
New York, NY

*Statement by Thomas Countryman, Assistant Secretary of the Bureau of International Security and Nonproliferation, at the UN Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty Opening Session*

Mr. President,

It gives me great pleasure to address this gathering on behalf of the United States. Mr. President, the enormous energy, diplomatic skill, and, yes, patience, that you have demonstrated in leading us to this point is extraordinary. I pledge the United States will continue to work closely with you and our colleagues around the room to achieve consensus on an effective Arms Trade Treaty in order, as Secretary Clinton clearly stated, "to ensure that all countries can be held to standards that will actually improve the global situation by denying arms to those who would abuse them."

We seek a treaty that establishes high international standards for controlling the transfer of arms on par with current best practices. A key benefit of such standards will be to reduce illicit arms trafficking. The international community as a whole suffers from illicit trafficking, which arms repressive regimes, criminal syndicates, insurgent groups, and terrorist organizations, and weakens legitimate governments and the rule of law. So the international community must create additional barriers to the illicit and irresponsible international transfer of arms to those who have little regard for the most fundamental standards of decency and civilization.

As we work toward making illicit trade in conventional arms more difficult, we also provide the benefit of strengthening the legal basis for legitimate arms trade. Lawfully conducted international transfers of arms managed according to transparent national control practices are vital to maintaining good governance, protecting citizens, and upholding international security consistent with the UN Charter. The Arms Trade Treaty should not in any way handicap the legitimate right of self-defense. Acting together, we can strengthen international peace and security and the rule of law by requiring universal establishment of responsible national standards for the arms trade.

Of course, states are already obligated under international law to abide by UN Security Council arms embargos; the Arms Trade Treaty should reinforce this fundamental obligation. In addition, exporting governments should be obliged to weigh carefully whether a potential recipient of conventional arms is going to use or divert supplied arms for criminal or other unacceptable or inhumane purposes. That is why the United States supports establishing additional criteria that each government must consider carefully before authorizing the export of conventional arms, to ensure that international transfers even to legitimate end users are not made capriciously, without deliberation, or contrary to longstanding international principles. In order for the ATT to be effective, it is important that it covers the widest range of conventional weapons as is practical, from small arms to aircraft carriers.

Today just over one-quarter of UN members have developed and implemented legal controls regarding their international arms trade. Our common goal is to have a treaty at the end of this month that will require states parties to regulate their international arms trade according to high standards, in accordance with their own constitutional and legal structures.

Moreover, we must acknowledge and respect that this negotiation is not an attempt to intrude, either in principle or process, into states' internal activities, laws, or practices concerning the domestic possession, use, or movement of arms. Rather, this treaty will regulate only the international trade in arms. Any attempt to include provisions in the treaty that would interfere with each state's sovereign control over the domestic possession, use, or movement of arms is clearly outside the scope of our mandate.

I think we all recognize the enormous diplomatic task the Conference has set for itself: concluding an effective ATT in four short weeks of negotiation by consensus with potentially all 193 member states of the United Nations. So we have a lot of work in front of us, and the United States looks forward to working with all of you to negotiate a treaty that raises international standards and curbs illicit arms transfers while preserving national prerogatives with regard to the legitimate arms trade.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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#### **5. U.S., Partners Work to Combat Terrorism, Support Victims** (07-09-2012)

By MacKenzie C. Babb | IIP Staff Writer

The United States and its international partners are working together to counter violent extremism and help the victims of terrorism around the globe, says Under Secretary of State Maria Otero.

"Around the world, terrorists make their mark on the world through acts of hatred. They proclaim their values with a deep and disturbing indifference to human life," Otero said July 9 to the Global Counterterrorism Forum's High-Level Conference on Victims of Terrorism in Madrid, Spain.

"Those of you here today stand in stark contrast to terrorists, not only by condemning their acts but by countering their indifference with honor, dignity and compassion for victims of terrorism," she said.

Otero, the under secretary for civilian security, democracy and human rights, delivered opening remarks to the conference. The July 9–10 meeting brings together government officials, civil society leaders and other stakeholders to discuss how countries can increase their support of victims of terror while cooperating to counter extremist ideologies.

The under secretary thanked the victims of terrorism who traveled from around the world to participate in the conference for their courage and perseverance.

"Each of you is a testament to the fact that the human spirit cannot be easily broken," she said. "You are an inspiration to all of us, and we are honored to work not just on your behalf but alongside you in this important work."

Otero said the group is working toward adopting an action plan by the end of the conference to reaffirm the group's shared hope that no victim suffers alone and to mobilize additional resources and expertise to provide victims with training to counter violent extremism by sharing their own stories.

"By magnifying the voices of survivors, especially through international media, we have a unique chance to educate the world about the pain inflicted by terrorists," she said. "Though such awareness is tainted with pain and suffering, it is all the more powerful in discouraging radicalized individuals and empowering other victims to speak up against violent extremism."

The under secretary said in addressing the needs of victims while integrating their voices into counterterrorism efforts, the United States aims to incorporate four pillars into a comprehensive strategy.

First, governments must be sure that victims of terror have the tools they need to heal.

"The road to recovery is long, but it is made all the easier by accessible information and resources — from medical care to legal representation to psychological services," Otero said.

She said also that victims should have the opportunity to participate in the accountability process following an attack.

"They should have access to the perpetrators' court proceedings and be afforded protection if necessary so that they may work toward recovery," Otero said.

She said victims often play an important role in bringing terrorists to justice, both as witnesses and as advocates for accountability.

"We must strive to protect and foster victim participation in accountability efforts, while remaining respectful of the psychological challenges such a process can present," the under secretary said.

Third, Otero said, the international community must provide an environment for the support and recovery of victims of terrorism.

"They should have the chance to meet other survivors and share experiences as each person advances his or her own healing," she said. She called on conference participants to work to "foster an understanding of the unique and diverse needs of survivors."

Finally, the under secretary called on governments around the world to listen to victims.

"Survivors can inform the global fight against terrorism," she said. "We need to elevate their voices and stories while also incorporating their wisdom into our counterterrorism efforts."

Otero said the United States hopes that these and similar efforts "will reach every victim of terrorism on the road to recovery and on our shared path of countering violent extremism in all forms the world over."

The Global Counterterrorism Forum, launched in September by Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, is a multilateral body with 30 founding members that seeks to build the international community's ability to counter 21st-century terrorism.

Otero is leading the U.S. delegation to the conference, and is scheduled to engage in bilateral discussions with senior government officials on topics including counterterrorism cooperation, assistance for victims of terror and the fight against trafficking in persons.

See also: [Terrorism Designations FAQs](#) – Fact Sheet

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## **6. Secretary Clinton at Tokyo Conference on Afghanistan (07-08-2012)**

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton  
Intervention at the Tokyo Conference on Afghanistan  
Prince Park Tower Hotel, Tokyo, Japan

SECRETARY CLINTON: Thank you, Foreign Minister Gamba. We also thank Prime Minister Noda, Madam Ogata, and the Japanese Government not only for welcoming us here but for the great generosity and leadership Japan continues to show in helping Afghanistan move forward into the transformation decade. We also recognize Secretary General Ban, President Karzai, our Afghan Co-chairs Foreign Minister Rassoul and Finance Minister Zakhilwal, along with representatives of Afghanistan's civil society who are here, because after all, what we are talking about is the future of the men, women, and children of Afghanistan. And I am delighted they are part of this conference.

I also want to commend all who have produced the three principles of the document, starting with the Afghanistan strategic vision for the transformation decade called Towards Self-Reliance. I really compliment our Afghan friends for an excellent job. And then the Tokyo Declaration and the Tokyo Mutual Accountability Framework are translating our goals and our commitments into a path that we can follow together and help hold each other accountable.

This conference represents the culmination of nearly two years of intensive work. Beginning in 2010 in Lisbon, continuing in Istanbul last fall, Bonn in December, Chicago in May, and Kabul just a few weeks ago, Afghanistan and the international partners have charted a responsible end to the war and the transfer of full responsibility for security back to Afghanistan.

Together, we have made pledges to meet the needs of the Afghan National Security Forces. Like a number of countries represented here, the United States and Afghanistan signed a Strategic Partnership Agreement that went into effect four days ago. And I was pleased to meet with President Karzai in Kabul yesterday morning, where I announced that Afghanistan is now officially designated a major non-NATO ally of the United States. As President Karzai said, we have to make the security gains and the transition irreversible, and the United States is committed to this enduring partnership.

Now, here in Tokyo we are focused on the economic development and governance advances that we hope to make together. Because we know Afghanistan's security cannot only be measured by the absence of war; it has to be measured by whether people have jobs and economic opportunity, whether they believe their government is serving their needs, whether political reconciliation proceeds and succeeds.

And Afghanistan has made substantial progress with the help of the international community, as Madame Ogata and others have already outlined. But now we have to ensure the strongest possible collaboration among four groups so that this decade of transformation can produce results: the Afghan Government and people, first and foremost; the international community; Afghanistan's neighbors; and the private sector. This collaboration depends on mutual accountability, and all sides have work to do and responsibilities to uphold.

As President Obama has said, as Afghanistan stands up, it will not stand alone. Let me speak briefly about each group's role.

Obviously, the future of Afghanistan belongs to its government and its people. And I welcome the clear vision presented by President Karzai and the Afghan Government today for unlocking Afghanistan's economic potential by achieving a stable democratic future. That must include fighting corruption, improving governance, strengthening the rule of law, increasing access to economic opportunity for all Afghans, especially for women.

On this point, let me emphasize that the United States believes strongly that no nation can achieve sustainable peace, reconciliation, stability, and economic growth if half the population is not empowered. All citizens need to have the chance to benefit from and contribute to Afghanistan's progress, and the United States will continue to stand strongly by the women of Afghanistan.

President Karzai has made a strong public commitment to stamping out corruption, implementing key reforms, and building Afghanistan's institutions. We will support him and the government in that endeavor to enable Afghanistan to move toward self-reliance and away from dependence on donor assistance.

As Afghans do their part, the international community must do ours, by making concrete pledges of economic support to ensure that Afghanistan meets its fiscal needs in the critical post-transition period.

I am very pleased that Prime Minister Noda has confirmed that \$16 billion is available from the international community through 2015. This is sustained economic support that will help Afghanistan meet its fiscal needs even as assistance declines. The United States will request from our Congress assistance for Afghanistan at or near the levels of the past decade through the year 2017. And our assistance will create incentives to help the Afghan Government meet mutually agreed reform goals.

In addition to the international community, Afghanistan's neighbors have an especially key role to play. I've spoken before of the vision of a New Silk Road in which Afghanistan is firmly embedded in the economic life of a thriving South and Central Asia. Nothing offers a more credible alternative to insurgency than the jobs and opportunities that come with foreign investment and the expansion of markets. Increasing regional trade will open up new sources of raw materials, energy, and agricultural products—not just for Afghanistan but for all nations in the region. And we are delighted to see this vision coming to light through the Istanbul Process and various regional trade and transit agreements.

The last essential ingredient to a successful economic transition and transformation is the private sector, because that will be key for driving growth, creating jobs, and supporting the kind of reform that needs to be sustainable. We look to the Afghan Government to follow through on their reform commitments, and we look to the international community to do what we can to draw business and investment to Afghanistan. Last month in new Delhi, in anticipation of today's conference, hundreds of companies attended an investment summit.

So the key pieces are there. The private sector interest is there. The Afghan Government's commitment to fight corruption and strengthen the rule of law is there. The international community's support, as evidenced by this conference, is there as well. And the growing partnership between Afghanistan and its neighbors is also growing.

We need to put those commitments together in order to achieve the future that is worthy of the sacrifice of the Afghan people and many nations represented around this table. The future has got to be what the Afghan people have forged for themselves, and we need to make sure that we do everything to make that a reality.

Thank you very much. (Applause.)

See also: [State Department Briefing on Tokyo Conference on Afghanistan](#)

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## **7. State Department Fact Sheet: Tokyo Conference on Afghanistan (07-08-2012)**

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE, Office of the Spokesperson  
FACT SHEET

### **July 7-9 Tokyo Conference on Afghanistan**

Building on the decisions made in Bonn and Chicago, as well as the U.S.-Afghanistan Strategic Partnership Agreement, the United States joined over 70 partners in Tokyo to underline our continuing support for Afghanistan's efforts to strengthen itself and provide a more peaceful, secure, and prosperous future for its people through the conclusion of the security transition in 2014 and into the Transformation Decade.

Today, the international community and Afghanistan agreed to a different kind of partnership built on the principles of mutual accountability. In the Tokyo Framework, the Government of Afghanistan and the international community agreed to a list of priority reforms, on important steps to improve the effectiveness of international assistance, and how we will collectively review progress moving forward.

The international community made clear its intent to support Afghanistan, while recognizing that sustained financial support is only possible, and only responsible, if Afghanistan successfully implements its program of necessary governance and economic reforms and maintains a political system that reflects its pluralistic society, including the equality of men and women, and remains firmly founded in the Afghan Constitution.

Japan has calculated that \$16 billion is available from the international community for Afghanistan's development over the next four years, enough to meet the World Bank's estimated requirements, just as Chicago met the security requirements. Secretary Clinton announced the United States' intention to seek sustained levels of economic assistance for Afghanistan through 2017 at or near the levels the U.S. has provided over the past decade.

Based on Afghanistan's efforts to become self-reliant, particularly reforms to facilitate private sector investment and regional integration along the New Silk Road, Afghanistan's need for foreign assistance will continue to decline over the course of the decade. The international community agreed to put an increased share of resources through incentivized programs that link disbursement of on-budget assistance to specific reforms.

The Tokyo Conference highlighted the critical role of Afghan civil society in advocating for and supporting human rights, good governance and sustainable social, economic and democratic development of Afghanistan.

### **Sustaining Gains of the Last Ten Years**

**Education:**

- Since 2006, the U.S. has funded \$316 million in education initiatives, increasing the number of teachers from 20,000 in 2002 to over 175,000 today, 30 percent of whom are women.
- In 2002, an estimated 900,000 boys were in school and virtually no girls. Now there are 8 million students enrolled in school, with nearly 40 percent girls.

**Health:**

- Since 2006, the U.S. has invested nearly \$643 million in healthcare initiatives, training over 22,000 healthcare workers.
- Life expectancy has increased by 15 years from 44 years to over 60 for men and women.
- Access to basic health services (ability to reach a facility within one hour by foot) has risen from 9 percent in 2001 to more than 60 percent today.

**Economic Infrastructure:**

- Since 2006, the U.S. has funded \$1.6 billion in infrastructure projects and \$386 million in agriculture development.
- In 2002, only 6 percent of Afghans had access to reliable electricity. Today 18 percent do, and more than 2 million people in Kabul now benefit from electric power 24 hours a day.
- In 2001, there was one mobile phone company with 21,000 subscribers. Today there are four companies with more than 16 million subscribers, some offering 3G service.
- In 2001, there were few paved roads. Today there are over 2,000 km. of paved roads, giving roughly 80 percent of the population greater access to markets, schools, clinics, and government services.
- Since 2009, we have expanded licit agricultural cultivation by 236,000 hectares, creating 174,000 full time equivalent jobs. The estimated Afghan GDP in 2010 was \$15.9 billion, a growth of more than four times higher than in 2002 and represents more than 9 percent per year average increase.

**Government Revenue:**

- Afghan government revenues have grown strongly since 2002, averaging almost a 20 percent increase per year. In 2011, domestic revenue reached an historic high of \$1.7 billion or 11 percent of GDP, exceeding the IMF target of 9.2 percent per year.
- DABS, Afghanistan's national power company, increased revenues from \$39 million to \$159 million.

**Democracy and Governance:**

- Since 2006, the U.S. has funded \$1.8 billion in rule of law and counternarcotics programs.
  - The Justice Sector Support Program (JSSP) has trained over 14,000 Afghan investigators, prosecutors, defense attorneys, and judges since the program began in 2004.
  - Twenty seven percent of seats in the Parliament, one governor, three cabinet, and 120 judicial positions are now held by women,
  - In 2001, there was one state-owned radio and television station. Now there are over 75 television stations and 175 radio stations, with all but two privately owned.
  - The Afghan constitution enshrines the rights of all Afghans, including women and minorities
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**8. State Dept. Fact Sheet: Major Non-NATO Ally Status for Afghanistan (07-07-2012)**

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE, Office of the Spokesperson  
FACT SHEET  
Major Non-NATO Ally Status for Afghanistan

On May 2, 2012, President Obama and President Karzai signed the Enduring Strategic Partnership Agreement between the United States of America and the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan. As part of this agreement, the United States pledged to designate Afghanistan a Major Non-NATO Ally (MNNA). Following the entry into force of the Strategic Partnership Agreement on July 4, President Obama signed the MNNA designation for Afghanistan on July 6. Afghanistan is the first country to be designated an MNNA since 2004.

MNNA designation provides a long-term framework for our security and defense cooperation. It reinforces the strong bilateral defense relationship between the United States and Afghanistan by helping support aligned defense planning,

procurement, and training. Only a limited number of countries have this special status. MNNA qualifies a country for certain privileges supporting defense and security cooperation but does not entail any security commitment to that country.

Some of the privileges of MNNA status include eligibility for training, loans of equipment for cooperative research and development, and ultimately Foreign Military Financing for commercial leasing of certain defense articles. While the United States and the international community already provide significant security assistance to Afghanistan, in the long-term as Afghanistan takes on greater financial responsibility for its own security, MNNA status will be a critical catalyst for maintaining effective Afghan National Security Forces and building a robust peace-time security relationship between Afghanistan and the United States.

MNNA status is a symbol of the strong relationship between Afghanistan and the United States based on mutual respect and shared interests. It is a significant example of the United States' long-term commitment to Afghanistan and our close cooperation.

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## **9. U.S., Turkey Introduce U.N. Resolution on Human Rights in Syria (07-06-2012)**

By Anastasya Lloyd-Damnjanovic | IIP Staff Writer

The United States and Turkey introduced a draft resolution condemning the Assad regime's human rights violations in Syria and reaffirming the international community's support for Special Envoy Kofi Annan's transition plan at the U.N. Human Rights Council session in Geneva on July 6.

Addressing members of the council, U.S. Ambassador Eileen Chamberlain Donahoe called for increased international pressure on the regime of President Bashar al-Assad to halt the ongoing violence against Syria's civilians and allow greater access for humanitarian assistance groups in the country.

"The Assad regime is waging a brutal campaign of violence against the Syrian people, characterized by aerial bombardment, mass killings, summary executions, torture including rape, and other atrocities," she said. "We demand an end to these outrageous crimes against the people of Syria."

With more than 50 co-sponsors, the draft resolution emphasizes international support for the Syrian-led political transition plan agreed upon at the recent meeting of the Geneva Action Group in June. It urges continued documentation of human rights abuses so that those responsible may be held accountable.

Donahoe also encouraged members of the Assad regime's security forces to recognize that their allegiance lies with the Syrian people that they have sworn to protect.

"We have a clear message to the Syrian security forces: Don't let Assad abuse your national loyalty. Your mission as the armed forces of Syria is to protect the Syrian people, not to prolong Assad's hold on power," she said. "The way to meet your responsibility is to end the repression and help set up a broad-based interim administration that will lead Syria to a democratic future."

Though two U.N. Security Council resolutions authorized the dispatch of U.N. observers to monitor the fragile cease-fire between the Syrian government and opposition forces in late April, the observers suspended their activities in June as violence again erupted.

In violation of the Security Council resolutions and the Annan six-point plan launched in February, the Assad regime has continued to use heavy weapons and troops against civilians, restrict fundamental freedoms, and detain activists and journalists, Donahoe said.

"The actions of the Assad government are contrary to the principles and values upon which the Human Rights Council was founded. No state that engages in such actions should ever serve on this Council," Donahoe said. The United States opposes Syria's bid to join the council in 2014.

The U.N. estimates that more than 9,000 civilians have died since the beginning of the Syrian uprising in 2011.

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## **10. Clinton Urges Chapter 7 U.N. Resolution on Syria (07-06-2012)**

By Stephen Kaufman | IIP Staff Writer

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton called for a Chapter 7 U.N. Security Council resolution to impose sanctions on the Syrian government because of Syria's continued failure to comply with peace efforts by U.N.-Arab League Special Envoy Kofi Annan.

Speaking in Paris July 6 at the Friends of the Syrian People Ministerial Meeting, Clinton said it is also “difficult to imagine” how the U.N. mission that is in Syria to supervise Annan’s peace plan can fulfill its responsibilities without a Chapter 7 enforcement mechanism.

In the face of continued Syrian government noncompliance, “it is clear unarmed observers cannot monitor a cease-fire that does not exist,” she said.

“It is imperative to go back to the Security Council and demand implementation of Kofi Annan’s plan, including the Geneva communiqué that Russia and China have already agreed to,” Clinton said.

The communiqué calls for an end to the violence between Bashar al-Assad’s regime and the Syrian people, as well as the creation of a transitional governing body ahead of constitutional reform and free elections that could include members of the Syrian government and opposition groups and would be formed by mutual consent.

Despite Russia and China’s agreement, both countries have blocked previous efforts in the Security Council to address the violence, which has killed at least 9,000 since March 2011.

The international community needs to demand that Russia and China “get off the sidelines and begin to support the legitimate aspirations of the Syrian people,” Clinton said.

“I don’t think Russia and China believe they are paying any price at all — nothing at all — for standing up on behalf of the Assad regime. The only way that will change is if every nation represented here directly and urgently makes it clear that Russia and China will pay a price because they are holding up progress — blockading it — that is no longer tolerable,” she said.

The secretary said Syria is becoming more isolated and sanctions are helping to limit Assad’s ability to finance his actions against the Syrian people.

“What’s keeping him afloat is money from Iran and assistance from Russia and the failure of countries represented here to tighten and enforce sanctions,” Clinton said, adding, “You cannot call for transition on the one hand and give the regime a free pass on sanctions on the other.”

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## **11. NATO to Strengthen Ability to Act with Global Partners** (07-06-2012)

By: Anders Fogh Rasmussen

NATO seeks to assume a more global perspective, play its part globally and strengthen its ability to act with partners around the globe, Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen said July 4 in London.

In a speech at Chatham House, Rasmussen said forging closer links with partners in Asia, Africa and elsewhere is crucial to guaranteeing future security in the Euro-Atlantic area.

“Today we hold regular consultations with all our partners on security issues of common interest,” he said. “I would like to see those consultations become much more frequent, focused and substance driven.”

Rasmussen described the development of clusters of willing and able allies and partners ready to cooperate in specific areas. “I see these clusters being flexible enough to accommodate different groups of partners, yet focused enough to deliver concrete results,” he said, in areas such as training and education, emerging security challenges and “smart defense,” which is a NATO initiative based on allies and partners pooling and sharing capabilities, setting priorities and coordinating efforts.

Many partner countries participate in NATO’s military education, training and exercises on an ad-hoc basis, and Rasmussen called for a more structured approach and for the broadest possible range of national participation in such activities.

“From Afghanistan to the Balkans and last year over Libya, our partners have played a vital role in the operational outcome and the political legitimacy of our missions,” Rasmussen said.

“They have made NATO stronger and kept the world safer,” he added, “so it is as important for NATO to invest in strong partnerships as it is to invest in modern military hardware and in flexible forces.”

An example of such flexibility, the secretary general said, includes cooperation among special operations forces, the use of drones, and collaboration on cybersecurity issues.

Cooperation among special operations forces, Rasmussen said, offers considerable potential to learn more and do more, both for NATO and for its partners. “We must build on the lessons we learned together in action in Afghanistan so we can boost our ability to act together in the future,” he said.

Rasmussen said allies' use of unmanned aircraft does not constitute a problem for NATO. "We actually try to promote the use of drones to improve gathering of information and intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance." In fact, he said, drones helped NATO to conduct what he called a "precision campaign in Libya" while minimizing civilian casualties and collateral damage.

Partners also could do more together to deal with emerging security challenges such as those in the cyber domain, the secretary general said.

"We are very focused on cybersecurity," Rasmussen said, adding that NATO gives strength in cybersecurity its highest priority and has taken steps to strengthen its own systems.

"The latest statistics indicate that we are attacked 100 times a day, so you can imagine that there is a strong interest out there in what NATO is doing," he noted. "We have to protect our systems more effectively, and we have taken a number of steps in that direction."

NATO ally Estonia suffered weeks of cyber attacks in 2007, he noted.

"It's not just theory — it's a reality," Rasmussen said of the existence of cyber threats and of the necessity to develop methods to confront them. Toward that purpose, he said, NATO has established a center of excellence in Estonia's capital of Tallinn that provides information and facilitates the sharing of experience and best practices.

"We have established a unit that can help allies that are cyber attacked if they don't have the capacity themselves to counter such attacks," he said. Confronting such threats successfully, Rasmussen added, demands a high degree of consultation, coordination and cooperation.

Along with expanding the range of issues in which NATO and its partners cooperate, Rasmussen said, the alliance also must expand the range of nations it engages, including China and India.

China, for example, is a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council and is playing an increasingly important global role, he said.

"As an organization that is driven by the U.N. Charter of Principles, NATO needs to better understand China and define areas where we can work together to guarantee peace and stability," Rasmussen added. "There are other important countries too, such as India, with whom we should increase our dialogue and seek opportunities for cooperation."

But one partnership stands out above all the others, the secretary general said.

"The trans-Atlantic bond lies at the very heart of NATO, [representing] our common belief in freedom, democracy and the rule of law. And it provides shared leadership between North America and Europe," he said.

Rasmussen said some see the U.S. pivot to focus on the Asia-Pacific region as the end of this unique partnership. But they are wrong, he said.

"The security of America and Europe is indivisible," Rasmussen said. "We are stronger and safer when we work together, and that is why NATO remains the indispensable alliance."

Around this essential trans-Atlantic bond, the secretary general said, NATO must strengthen its partnerships in Europe, with Russia and around the globe, "because in the 21st century, we are all connected whether we want it or not."

A positive connection and continued engagement with partners, Rasmussen said, "is a cure for pessimism, a cause for optimism, and key for the security we all seek."

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